

Substitute for form 1449A&B/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/797,910
Filing Date	March 9, 2004
First Named Inventor	MICHLITSCH, KENNETH J.
Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	021496-000600US

Sheet 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS*

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
PV	1	2004/0210243	10-21-2004	Gannoe et al.	
PV	2	2004/0215180	10-28-2004	Starkebaum et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ²
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
PV	3	WO	2004/084702	A2	10-07-2004	Neoguide Systems, Inc.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	4	WO	2004/084808	A2	10-07-2004	The Research Foundation of State University of New York		<input type="checkbox"/>
	5	WO	2004/103189	A1	12-03-2004	C.R. Bard, Inc.		<input type="checkbox"/>

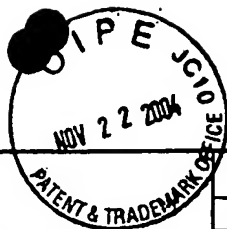
NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
PV	6	CHUTTANI et al., "A Novel Endoscopic Full-thickness Plicator for Treatment of GERD: An Animal Model Study," <i>Gastrointestinal Endoscopy</i> , Vol. 26, No. 1, (2002), pp. 116-122.	
PV	7	MASON, "Development of Future of Gastroplasties for Morbid Obesity," <i>Arch Surg</i> , Vol. 138 (April 2003), pp. 362-366.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	9-15-06
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.



PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Substitute for form 1448A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
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Sheet **1** of **13****Complete if Known**

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Art Unit	Unassigned
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS+					
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		Number Kind Code ² (if known)			
	1	616,672	12-27-1898	Kelling	
	2	1,814,791	05-04-1928	Endo et al.	
	3	2,201,610	05-21-1940	Dawson, Jr.	
	4	2,413,142	12-24-1945	Jones et al.	
	5	2,510,198	06-06-1950	Tesmer	
	6	2,533,494	12-12-1950	Mitchell, Jr.	
	7	3,060,972	10-30-1962	Sheldon	
	8	3,096,962	07-09-1963	Meijs	
	9	3,150,379	09-29-1964	Brown	
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	11	3,166,072	01-19-1965	Sullivan, Jr.	
	12	3,168,274	02-02-1965	Street	
	13	3,430,662	03-04-1969	Guamaschelli	
	14	3,494,006	02-10-1970	Brumlik	
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	16	3,551,987	01-05-1971	Wilkinson	
	17	3,646,615	03-07-1972	Ness	
	18	3,664,345	05-23-1972	Dabbs et al.	
	19	3,753,438	08-21-1973	Wood et al.	
	20	3,858,578	01-07-1975	Milo	
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	22	3,874,388	04-01-1975	King et al.	
	23	3,910,281	10-07-1975	Kletschka et al.	
	24	3,913,565	10-21-1975	Kawahara	
	25	3,974,834	08-17-1976	Kane	
	26	3,976,079	08-24-1976	Samuels et al.	
	27	4,007,743	02-15-1977	Blake	
	28	4,054,128	10-18-1977	Seufert et al.	
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	30	4,069,825	01-24-1978	Akiyama	
	31	4,245,624	01-20-1981	Komiya	
	32	4,366,810	01-04-1983	Slanetz, Jr.	
	33	4,367,746	01-11-1983	Derechinsky	
	34	4,414,720	11-15-1983	Crooms	
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	36	4,494,531	01-22-1985	Gianturco	
	37	4,532,926	08-06-1985	O'Holla	
	38	4,534,350	08-13-1985	Golden et al.	
	39	4,548,202	10-22-1985	Duncan	
	40	4,586,503	05-06-1986	Kirsh et al.	
	41	4,592,339	06-03-1986	Kumak et al.	

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			First Named Inventor	MICHLITSCH, KENNETH J.	
			Art Unit	Unassigned	
			Examiner Name	Unassigned	
Sheet	2	of	13	Attorney Docket Number	021496-000600US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS+					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date - MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
M	42	4,592,356	06-03-1986	Gutierrez	
	43	4,595,007	06-17-1986	Mericle	
	44	4,610,250	09-09-1986	Green	
	45	4,648,733	03-10-1987	Merkt	
	46	4,655,257	04-07-1987	Iwashita	
	47	4,669,473	06-02-1987	Richards et al.	
	48	4,705,040	11-10-1987	Mueller et al.	
	49	4,711,002	12-08-1987	Kreeger	
	50	4,724,840	02-16-1988	McVay et al.	
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	55	4,873,976	10-17-1989	Schreiber	
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	59	4,949,927	08-21-1990	Madocks et al.	
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	61	5,032,127	07-16-1991	Frazee et al.	
	62	5,035,692	07-30-1991	Lyon et al.	
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	65	5,059,201	10-22-1991	Asnis	
	66	5,088,979	02-18-1992	Filipi et al.	
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	68	5,108,420	04-28-1992	Marks	
	69	5,122,136	06-16-1992	Gugliemi et al.	
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	72	5,203,864	04-20-1993	Phillips	
	73	5,217,471	06-08-1993	Burkhart	
74	5,217,473	06-08-1993	Yoon		
75	5,222,508	06-29-1993	Contarini		
76	5,222,961	06-29-1993	Nakao et al.		
77	5,222,963	06-29-1993	Brinkerhoff et al.		
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81	5,250,053	10-05-1993	Snyder		
82	5,251,611	10-12-1993	Zehel et al.		

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			Filing Date	March 9, 2004	
			First Named Inventor	MICHLITSCH, KENNETH J.	
			Art Unit	Unassigned	
			Examiner Name	Unassigned	
Sheet	3	of	13	Attorney Docket Number	021496-000600US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS+					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number Kind Code ² (if known)			
[Signature]	83	5,254,126	10-19-1993	Filipi et al.	
	84	5,261,916	11-16-1993	Engelson	
	85	5,268,001	12-07-1993	Nicholson et al.	
	86	5,282,827	02-01-1994	Kensey et al.	
	87	5,284,488	02-08-1994	Sideris	
	88	5,289,817	03-01-1994	Williams et al.	
	89	5,300,065	04-05-1994	Anderson	
	90	5,304,184	04-19-1994	Hathaway et al.	
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	92	5,304,204	04-19-1994	Bregen	
	93	5,316,543	05-31-1994	Eberbach	
	94	5,327,914	07-12-1994	Shlain	
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	96	5,334,217	08-02-1994	Das	
	97	5,336,222	08-09-1994	Durgin, Jr. et al.	
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	101	5,342,376	08-30-1994	Ruff	
	102	5,345,949	09-13-1994	Shlain	
	103	5,348,259	09-20-1994	Blanco et al.	
	104	5,354,298	10-11-1994	Lee et al.	
	105	5,366,459	11-22-1994	Yoon	
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107	5,372,146	12-13-1994	Branch		
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109	5,374,275	12-20-1994	Bradley et al.		
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Examiner Signature	[Signature]	Date Considered	9-15-06
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			First Named Inventor	MICHLITSCH, KENNETH J.	
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Sheet	4	of	13	Attorney Docket Number	021496-000600US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS+					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number Kind Code ² (if known)			
	124	5,437,680	08-01-1995	Yoon	
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	129	5,462,561	10-31-1995	Voda	
	130	5,465,894	11-14-1995	Clark et al.	
	131	5,470,337	11-28-1995	Moss	
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	133	5,476,470	12-19-1995	Fitzgibbons, Jr.	
	134	5,478,354	12-26-1995	Tovey et al.	
	135	5,480,405	01-02-1996	Yoon	
	136	5,496,332	03-05-1996	Sierra et al.	
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	140	5,507,811	04-16-1996	Koike et al.	
	141	5,520,691	05-28-1996	Branch	
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	143	5,522,843	06-04-1996	Zang	
	144	5,527,321	06-18-1996	Hinchliffe	
	145	5,527,322	06-18-1996	Klein et al.	
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	147	5,531,759	07-02-1996	Kensey et al.	
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	150	5,540,704	07-30-1996	Gordon et al.	
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	152	5,558,665	09-24-1996	Kieturakis	
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	158	5,571,116	11-05-1996	Bolanos et al.	
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	163	5,578,045	11-26-1996	Das	
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Examiner Signature			Date Considered	9-7-5-06	

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		Number Kind Code ² (if known)			
N	165	5,584,835	12-17-1996	Greenfield	
	166	5,584,859	12-17-1996	Brotz	
	167	5,601,557	02-11-1997	Hayhurst	
	168	5,603,718	02-18-1997	Xu	
	169	5,613,974	03-25-1997	Andreas et al.	
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	171	5,624,381	04-29-1997	Kieturakis	
	172	5,626,588	05-06-1997	Sauer et al.	
	173	5,626,614	05-06-1997	Hart	
	174	5,630,540	05-20-1997	Blewett	
	175	5,632,752	05-27-1997	Buelna	
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	177	5,643,295	07-01-1997	Yoon	
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	181	5,658,312	08-19-1997	Green et al.	
	182	5,658,313	08-19-1997	Thal	
	183	5,662,587	09-02-1997	Grundfest et al.	
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	186	5,665,109	09-09-1997	Yoon	
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	188	5,667,513	09-16-1997	Torrie et al.	
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190	5,679,005	10-21-1997	Einstein		
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193	5,690,655	11-25-1997	Hart et al.		
194	5,693,060	12-02-1997	Martin		
195	5,700,273	12-23-1997	Buelna et al.		
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198	5,709,708	01-20-1998	Thal		
199	5,713,903	02-03-1998	Sander et al.		
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202	5,725,552	03-10-1998	Kotula et al.		
203	5,732,707	03-31-1998	Widder et al.		
204	5,741,297	04-21-1998	Simon		
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Examiner Signature			Date Considered	9-15-02	

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[Signature]	206	5,749,893	05-12-1998	Vidal et al.	
	207	5,752,963	05-19-1998	Allard et al.	
	208	5,759,151	06-02-1998	Sturges	
	209	5,766,189	06-16-1998	Matsuno	
	210	5,779,719	07-14-1998	Klein et al.	
	211	5,782,859	07-21-1998	Nicholas et al.	
	212	5,782,865	07-21-1998	Grotz	
	213	5,787,897	08-04-1998	Kleturakis	
	214	5,792,152	08-11-1998	Klein et al.	
	215	5,792,153	08-11-1998	Swain et al.	
	216	5,797,929	08-25-1998	Andreas et al.	
	217	5,797,960	08-25-1998	Stevens et al.	
	218	5,810,849	09-22-1998	Kontos	
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	220	5,810,853	09-22-1998	Yoon	
	221	5,810,882	09-22-1998	Bolduc et al.	
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Examiner Signature	[Signature]		Date Considered	9-15-06	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO			Complete if Known		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			Application Number	10/797,910	
			Filing Date	March 9, 2004	
			First Named Inventor	MICHLITSCH, KENNETH J.	
			Art Unit	Unassigned	
			Examiner Name	Unassigned	
Sheet	7	of	13	Attorney Docket Number	021496-000600US

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number Kind Code ² (if known)			
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Examiner Signature	[Signature]	Date Considered	9-15-02
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			Filing Date	March 9, 2004	
			First Named Inventor	MICHLITSCH, KENNETH J.	
			Art Unit	Unassigned	
			Examiner Name	Unassigned	
Sheet	8	of	13	Attorney Docket Number	021496-000600US

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	9-15-04
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			Examiner Name	Unassigned	
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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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Examiner Signature	[Signature]		Date Considered	9-18-06	

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			Application Number	10/797,910	
			Filing Date	March 9, 2004	
			First Named Inventor	MICHLITSCH, KENNETH J.	
			Art Unit	Unassigned	
			Examiner Name	Unassigned	
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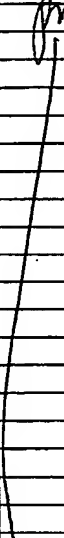
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		Number Kind Code ² . (# known)			
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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	9-15-06
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			Filing Date	March 9, 2004	
			First Named Inventor	MICHLITSCH, KENNETH J.	
			Art Unit	Unassigned	
			Examiner Name	Unassigned	
Sheet	11	of	13	Attorney Docket Number	021496-000600US

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	432	EP	0 497 781	B1	08-12-1992	Bauerfeind et al.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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	437	WO	92/04870	A1	04-02-1992	Mills et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
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Examiner Signature					Date Considered	9-15-06		

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
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			Examiner Name	Unassigned	
			Attorney Docket Number	021496-000600US	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	445	WO	00/57796	A1	10-05-2000	Rosenblatt		<input type="checkbox"/>
	446	WO	00/78227	A1	12-28-2000	Laufer et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	447	WO	00/78229	A1	12-28-2000	Laufer et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	448	WO	01/21246	A1	03-26-2001	Matsuura et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	449	WO	01/66001	A2	09-13-2001	Gambale et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	450	WO	01/66018	A1	09-13-2001	Gambale et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	451	WO	01/70096	A1	09-27-2001	Butler et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	452	WO	01/70097	A1	09-27-2001	Butler		<input type="checkbox"/>
	453	WO	01/85034	A1	11-15-2001	Geitz		<input type="checkbox"/>
	454	WO	01/87144	A1	11-22-2001	Page et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	455	WO	01/89370	A2	11-29-2001	Lehman et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
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	457	WO	01/89393	A1	11-29-2001	Gambale		<input type="checkbox"/>
	458	WO	02/00119	A2	01-03-2002	Harvie et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	459	WO	02/24080	A2	03-28-2002	Schurr et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	460	WO	02/39880	A2	05-23-2002	McClellan et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	461	WO	02/064012	A2	08-22-2002	Buehlmann et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
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	464	WO	02/094105	A2	11-28-2002	Adams		<input type="checkbox"/>
	465	WO	03/007796	A2	01-30-2003	Laufer et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	466	WO	03/007799	A2	01-30-2003	Ritchart		<input type="checkbox"/>
	467	WO	03/090633	A2	11-06-2003	Kortenbach et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	468	WO	03/096909	A1	11-27-2003	DiCarlo et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	469	WO	03/099137	A2	12-04-2003	Cerier et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	470	WO	2004/004544	A2	01-14-2004	Deem et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	471	WO	2004/019787	A2	03-11-2004	Devries et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
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	473	WO	2004/021865	A2	03-18-2004	Zirps et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	474	WO	2004/021867	A2	03-18-2004	Zirps et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	475	WO	2004/021868	A2	03-18-2004	Zirps et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	476	WO	2004/021873	A2	03-18-2004	Aznoian et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	477	WO	2004/021894	A1	03-18-2004	Stone		<input type="checkbox"/>
	478	WO	2004/049905	A2	06-17-2004	Tartaglia et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	479	WO	2004/071284	A1	08-26-2004	Mikkaichi et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>
	480	WO	2004/075787	A1	09-10-2004	Beulke et al.		<input type="checkbox"/>

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/797,910
				Filing Date	March 9, 2004
				First Named Inventor	MICHLITSCH, KENNETH J.
				Art Unit	Unassigned
				Examiner Name	Unassigned
Sheet	13	of	13	Attorney Docket Number	021496-000600US

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	481	ANGIOLINK, The Expanding Vascular Staple [brochure], 1 page total.	
	482	BLUETT et al., "Experimental Evaluation of Staple Lines in Gastric Surgery," <i>Arch. Surg.</i> , vol. 122, July 1987, pp. 772-776.	
	483	BROLIN et al., "Experimental Evaluation of Techniques of Gastric Partitioning for Morbid Obesity", <i>Surgery, Gynecology & Obstetrics</i> , vol. 153, Dec. 1981, pp. 878-882	
	484	JOHNSTON et al. "The Magenstrasse and Mill Operation of Morbid Obesity", <i>Obesity Surgery</i> 13, 2003, pp. 10-16.	
	485	OKUDAIRA et al., "The Healing and Tensile Strength of the Gastroplasty Staple Line," <i>The American Surgeon</i> , Oct. 1984, pp.564-568.	
	486	SPIVAK, et al. "Endoluminal Surgery", <i>Surgical Endoscopy</i> , (1997) 11:321-325.	
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	488	SUTURA, The Next Generation in Vascular Suturing Devices: SuperStitch [brochure], 2 pages total.	

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